

The town of Great Barrington is also the center of many historical, commercial and cultural resources, including the Mason Library in Great Barrington and Ramsdell Library in Housatonic, the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, the Captain Truman Wheeler House, the Dwight-Henderson House, and the famed Newsboy Statue. With its scenic natural resources, Great Barrington has become the summer vacation destination of thousands and continues to be a vibrant and charming community.

On the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the town of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, I congratulate its citizens and praise their dedication and perseverance throughout the town's history. I look forward with enthusiastic support as we continue to work together for a prosperous future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 499 on July 6, 2011, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

ON THE OCCASION OF THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL METRO DETROIT YOUTH DAY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise today to recognize the organizers, supporters and participants of the twenty-ninth annual Metro Detroit Youth Day.

While Metro Detroit Youth Day has many leaders, organizers, participants and supporters which make it possible, one man, Mr. Ed Deeb, stands at the foundation of this great youth empowering event. When asked by the Mayor of Detroit to rise to the challenge of overcoming divisions to create a stronger community, Ed answered, rallying the business community to work with Detroit youth to overcome the divide between business and youth. From this work, Youth Day was born as an event which calmed tensions through dialogue between Detroit business owners and the youth. Under Ed's leadership as chairman and coordinator of Youth Day, it has continued to grow and evolve into an event focused on nurturing the great potential of our youth in the City of Detroit.

Part of Youth Days' evolution included expanding its impact on participants, supporters and volunteers. As part of this expansion, Youth Day began to focus on providing youth with guidance, mentoring, substance abuse prevention and motivational activities designed to allow them to channel their creativity and ideas into positive outcomes. As part of this empowerment, Youth Day began awarding participants with scholarships for youth that displayed outstanding citizenship, leadership and service. With over seven hundred scholarships awarded since 1991, Youth Day has un-

doubtedly provided many Metro Detroit young adults with the opportunity to pursue higher education and more fully realize their potential.

The success of Ed's vision speaks for itself, with Youth Day having become a tradition for the Metro Detroit community. Since its inception so many years ago, Youth Day has grown from twelve hundred participants to over thirty-seven thousand annually, with more than seven hundred thousand youth participants throughout its history. Of equal importance are the more than fifteen hundred annual volunteers who come from over six hundred community organizations and businesses who supervise sports clinics, games, contests and many other activities that are a part of this daylong event. For its impact, Youth Day has been awarded numerous accolades including a Point of Light award from President George H.W. Bush and the Michigan Governor's award for Physical Fitness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the twenty-ninth annual Metro Detroit Youth Day and recognizing the organizers, supporters, volunteers and participants for working together to build a stronger future for Michigan youth in Metro Detroit.

IN HONOR OF ANNE FEENEY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Anne Feeny on the occasion of her 60th birthday. Anne is an exceptional person and a longtime political activist and musician. She has been called a "union maid and hell raiser" and has actively fought for social justice over the past four decades.

Anne was born in Charleroi, Pennsylvania on July 1, 1951. From an early age Anne's two great passions were politics and music. She was greatly influenced by the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement, and her grandfather, William P. Feeny, a miners' organizer and violinist.

Anne graduated from Fontbonne Academy in 1968. She spent the next year saving money until she had enough to purchase a Martin D-28 guitar in 1969. Anne played this guitar for over forty years at political rallies and festivals around the world until she recently retired it from use.

By 1972 Anne had co-founded the Pittsburgh Action Against Rape, which still provides services to rape victims in the Pittsburgh area. She graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1974 and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1978. She worked as a trial attorney for twelve years and served as president of the Pittsburgh Musicians' Union from 1997–1998. To date, Anne is the only woman elected to this prestigious position. Her political activism continues to this day. Currently, Anne is a member of the Industrial Workers of the World and the American Federation of Musicians.

Since 1991, Anne has toured around the world playing her music and participating in labor and political rallies. She has released several albums and her music has been covered by the band Peter, Paul, and Mary. Anne is a proud mother of two, a gifted musician, and a renowned political activist.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in extending warm wishes to Anne Feeny on her 60th birthday.

DEPARTMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, I urge Members to support an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2012 Department of Defense Appropriations Act (H.R. 2219) to restore funding for the Gulf War Illness Research Program (GWIRP) of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP).

The FY2012 Defense Appropriations bill, as passed by the Committee, cut many CDMRP programs by 20%. The amendment offered would restore \$3.6 million to the GWIRP, bringing funding for the program back to FY2008 levels.

This program has made dramatic progress during the past year and deserves additional funding.

In a landmark Gulf War and Health report, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) has recognized that the chronic multi-symptom illness affecting 250,000 Gulf War veterans is a serious disease—not caused by psychiatric illness—that also affects other U.S. military forces, and called for a major national research effort to identify treatments. The scientific community has responded with a dramatic increase in the quality and quantity of proposals submitted to GWIRP. Most encouraging, GWIRP-funded researchers have completed the first successful pilot study of a medication to treat one of the major symptoms of Gulf War illness.

This effective small program demonstrably merits continuation and expansion, even in a time of fiscal austerity. As stated by the Institute of Medicine Chair, Dr. Stephen Hauser, it is "vital to the health and effectiveness of current and future military forces, in addition to Gulf War veterans."

The GWIRP is the only national program studying this issue. It is a competitive peer-reviewed program open to any doctor or scientist on a competitive basis. By contrast, Veterans Affairs (VA) research programs are only open to VA doctors, few of whom have expertise in chronic multi-symptom illness. To effectively address a difficult and specialized problem like this, it is necessary to enlist the entire medical scientific community.

Most importantly, it is working. GWIRP-funded researchers at the University of California, San Diego, will reported in June on the first successful medication treatment study in the history of Gulf War illness research. The study showed that the supplement CoQ10 produced significant improvement in one of the most serious symptoms of Gulf War illness, fatigue with exertion. It is not a cure, and the study needs to be replicated in a larger group, but the result is extremely encouraging.